

CODE ENFORCEMENT

A number of ordinances have been enacted by the City of Longmont to preserve the public health, protect public safety and general welfare and uphold the aesthetic conditions and quality of life for the residents of Longmont.

All property owners, residents and tenants in the City of Longmont are required to comply with the ordinances in the *Longmont Municipal Code* (LMC). Violations of the ordinances are investigated by Code Enforcement and if a Code Enforcement officer discovers that a violation exists, the Officer will notify the property owner. The Code Enforcement Officer will also try to notify the tenant of the violation if the property is a rental unit and the tenant can be identified.

After notification of a violation, the property owner is given a reasonable time to correct the violation and bring the property into compliance with the LMC. How long may vary depending on the type of violation and the type of corrective procedure required. If a property owner has been notified repeatedly about violations, and Code Enforcement has issued warnings to the property owner in the past, Code Enforcement can, with no further warning, issue the owner (or a tenant, in certain situations) a summons to appear in Longmont Municipal Court.

Some of the most common nuisance code violations are:



YARD MAINTENANCE STANDARDS

Yard maintenance is the responsibility of every property owner, including maintenance of plant material in any right-of-way abutting the property.

Standards include:

- 1) No weeds, grasses or other unsightly vegetation over 12 inches in height
- 2) Hedges and shrubs must be maintained at a height of 36" or less in the sight distance triangle at intersections
- 3) Trees must be trimmed to a minimum of 8 feet above a sidewalk and 15 feet above the street
- 4) Vegetation and trees must be trimmed so that they don't impair or obstruct the travel of pedestrians on public walks

(Weeds – LMC 9.32.010; Sight Distance Triangle – LMC 15.05.100.L; Restricted Planting Areas – LMC 15.05.090.H.11.C).



JUNK/INOPERABLE VEHICLE

A junk/inoperable vehicle is:

- 1) A vehicle that does not bear valid, unexpired plates and does not appear to be of a type exempted from motor vehicle licensing by the State of Colorado
- 2) A vehicle so wrecked, damaged or substantially dismantled that it is inoperable
- 3) If designed to be capable of moving itself when in proper repair, the vehicle is incapable of being moved under its own power in its existing condition
- 4) A vehicle with any number of flat tires

Vehicles with one of these conditions may not be parked or stored on the public street for any length of time and are subject to immediate removal. However, one junk/inoperable vehicle may be stored on private property **only** if it is stored inside a garage or completely covered with an opaque car cover.

(Junk Motor Vehicle Prohibited – LMC 11.12.050).



OFFENSIVE PREMISES

Junk, trash and debris cannot be left in the yard and must be disposed of properly. This includes, but is not limited to, auto parts, appliances, furniture, building materials, tires, discarded paper, cardboard, plastics, tree trimmings and fallen limbs. It is unlawful for any person to place, leave, dump or permit the accumulation of any materials, junk, debris or garbage that may afford food or

harbor for rats, rodents, pests or vermin. (*Offensive Premises – LMC 9.04.100; Rat Harborage – LMC 9.16.150*).



SNOW AND ICE ON SIDEWALKS

Every owner, manager, tenant or adult occupant of any property in the City of Longmont is responsible for removal of snow and ice from the public sidewalks abutting said property. All sidewalks must be kept reasonably passable for pedestrians. (*Snow and Ice on Sidewalks – LMC 9.04.130*).

IF YOU OR YOUR TENANT RECEIVES A NOTICE OF VIOLATION . . .

Call Code Enforcement to make sure you understand exactly what you need to do to correct the violation, and then do so promptly. You can ask for additional time, provided you are making good faith progress on the repairs. Because some problems are serious and the violation poses a danger to the health, safety or welfare of occupants, the correction may not be delayed.

If the property owner or tenant is unwilling to take prompt action to correct the problems, there are several possible consequences. The City can arrange for a lot to be mowed or have a vehicle towed from the public street, with costs billed to the property owner. If legal action for enforcement becomes necessary, the property owner and/or tenant will be served a summons to appear before a judge in Municipal Court where the judge will ask the property owner and/or tenant to explain their case and will ultimately order the responsible part to correct the violations in order to avoid fines, liens and perhaps even jail time.

TO CONTACT CODE ENFORCEMENT CALL 303-651-8444

VEHICLE DONATION

If you are ready to say goodbye to your old car and not sure what to do with it, you can put some “good” in the goodbye by donating your unwanted vehicle (this includes motorcycles, boats and RV’s) to a charitable organization. Donations may qualify for a tax deduction. All that is required to donate is a clear title, the vehicle and wheels, so that the vehicle can be towed.



Some local organizations that accept old cars are listed below (if you have a favorite charity, check with them to see if they can accept old cars). Contact these agencies directly to discuss their car donation program.

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| • American Council for the Blind | 1-800-67.9510 |
| • LEVI/Longmont Ending Violence Initiative | 303-774-4534 |
| • Longmont Humane Society | 303-772-1232 x233 |
| • Mountain States Children’s Home | 1-800-551-9401 |